

**Charleston Air Force Base
Installation Restoration Program
Charleston AFB, South Carolina**

Statement of Basis – SWMU 31 - Fighter Interceptor Group (FIG-1) Waste Accumulation Area

INTRODUCTION

Charleston Air Force Base (Charleston AFB or the Base) is located in Charleston County, approximately 10 miles northwest of Charleston, South Carolina (Figure 1). The Base comprises approximately 3,731 acres of contiguous property and has a population of approximately 8,500. The host command at Charleston AFB is the 628th Air Base Wing (ABW), whose primary mission is to maintain immediate airlift capability to deliver and sustain air and combat forces at combat locations. During peacetime, operations include re-supply of overseas American embassies and military installations and supply of aid to natural disaster areas.

This Statement of Basis (SoB) explains the rationale for the proposed remedy that no further action (NFA) is required at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 31, Fighter Interceptor Group (FIG-1) Waste Accumulation Area, at Charleston AFB. This document is intended to inform the general public of the remedy proposed for SWMU 31. This document provides information on how the public can be involved in the remedy selection process. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) will not finalize this proposed remedy until the public comment period has ended and all information submitted during the public comment period has been reviewed and considered.

This SoB should not be considered the primary source of information for this site. The SoB summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the following documents:

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) Report for SWMU 31; Tetra Tech NUS, Inc. 1995.
- Data Gap Investigation Report for SWMUs 28, 31, and 56, Tetra Tech, 2010.

The RFI and other documents supporting this determination can be found in the Administrative Record at Charleston AFB and the DHEC office located in Columbia, South Carolina (addresses provided in the last section of this document). DHEC encourages the public to review these documents in order to gain a more thorough understanding of SWMU 31 and the activities that have been conducted there.

PROPOSED REMEDY

The recommended alternative for SWMU 31 is NFA because of the absence of contamination observed in the soil and groundwater samples collected during the RFI and data gap investigation.

SITE BACKGROUND

Description

SWMU 31 is located on the east side of Charleston AFB, east of Building 2000 (Figure 2). It has served as a collection point and temporary storage area for hydraulic oil and JP-4 wastes, along with Speedy Dry oil absorbent. The site is an asphalt area that is 30 feet long by 12 feet wide, and is on the edge of a larger paved parking area. The site is adjacent to a grass covered lawn to the east, and is surrounded by asphalt in all other directions. A stream is located approximately 30 feet to the south which flows to a wetland approximately 150 feet south of SWMU 31.

Investigations

During the RFI, two near-surface (0-12 inches) soil samples, 31-SS-01 and 31-SS-02, were collected (Figure 2) from the southeastern and southwestern corners of the site. Both soil samples were analyzed for VOCs, SVOCs, and TPH. Sample 31-SS-01 was also analyzed for inorganics and PCBs. Toluene, m-/p-xylenes, and di-n-butylphthalate were detected in both samples. bis(2Ethylhexyl)phthalate was detected in 31-SS-01. Several metals were also detected at varying concentrations in both samples.

In 2009, soil and groundwater sampling was conducted at the site to further characterize the nature and extent of contamination. Three surface soil and two subsurface soil samples were collected at the site along with 2 groundwater samples. No contamination was identified that would pose an risk to human health and the environment.

SITE RISK

A baseline human health risk assessment was not performed for this SWMU because of the absence of contamination in the soils and groundwater observed in the samples collected at the site.

STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

This document is being issued in accordance with 40 CFR, in compliance with Federal hazardous waste management requirements. The Charleston AFB Corrective Action Program is conducted under the authority of Sections 3004(u), 3004(v), 3005(c)(3), 3008(h), 3013, 6001, and 7533 of RCRA (42 U.S.C 6901 et seq.) as amended by the Hazardous & Solid Waste Amendment (HSWA) of 1984 (Pub. L. No. 98-616, 98 Stat. 3221) and the Federal Facility Compliance Act of 1992 (FFCA) (Pub. L. 102-386, 106 Stat. 1505). This SoB is part of the corrective action process and is a requirement of the HSWA Corrective Action Permit, referred to as the HSWA permit, issued to Charleston AFB by DHEC.